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20 May 1958

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR

1. This memorandum recommends action in Paragraph 5.

2. Attention is invited to the attached communication addressed to me by the American Public Relations Association. In essence it states that the Association has a committee working with the Moss Committee and it asks government information officers to inform the APRA of instances where they were forbidden to furnish specific information of a non-security nature for policy reasons; of instances where they were to issue information for propaganda or political purposes; of instances where information officials were discharged or punished because they gave out truthful, non-security information or other information which you, "public information officers," may consider pertinent.

3. The letter indicates that instead of making direct replies, maybe a reference could be made to another source which could be used and it also gives a list of people with their office and home phone numbers who can be telephoned to, so as to protect the informer's identity. Among those listed are former Congressman Robert Ramspeck, a former Chairman of the Civil Service Commission and Mel White, Chief of Information Service, U. S. Air Force, Office of Scientific Research.

4. I consider this a disgraceful action on the part of a reputable organization, the APRA, and of course I will have nothing to do with it. I am not now, nor have I ever, been a member of the APRA. I have furnished copies of this to the Director of Security and the CI.

5. RECOMMENDATION: That the DCI bring this matter to the attention of the White House.

STAT

cc: DDCI
IG
Dir/Sec
CI

STANLEY J. GROGAN
Assistant to the Director

APRA *American Public Relations Association*

1010 Vermont Avenue, N.W., Washington 5, D.C. • DIstrict 7-1427



May 16, 1958

Dear Government Information Officer:

As some of you know, the American Public Relations Association has a Government Relations Committee which has been working with the House of Representatives Government Operations Committee and its Subcommittee on Government Information exploring ideas for legitimizing the position of the government information specialist and the public relations function in government. We have had excellent and sympathetic cooperation from the Committee staff, including Congressman John Moss, Subcommittee chairman.

The time has come when we need specific information from you to further this work. In general, the information we need includes, but is not limited to, such things as: (1) instances of information people being forbidden to give out specific information of a non-security nature, in response to queries or otherwise, for policy reasons; (2) instances of information people being required to put out information purely for "propaganda" purposes or political reasons; (3) instances of information people being fired or otherwise punished for giving out truthful, non-security information in response to queries; or other information which you may consider pertinent. Since this is a non-partisan APRA project, your committee will give equal welcome to examples which pre-date the present Administration.

I understand the delicacy of these questions and the position you may feel they put you in. I want to assure you that any answers you may send us will be kept just as confidential as you indicate. We will not use your name or give it to anyone without your permission. If any of the instances you cite could be gotten from anywhere else, you might indicate those sources as a way of keeping yourself clear.

If you wish, instead of sending the material to me, you may want to send it or tell it (via telephone or in person) to a member of the committee. They are:

Robert L. Gray, Chairman, Public Relations Director
Home Builders Association of Metropolitan Washington
2101 K Street, N.W.,
Washington 7, D.C. FEderal 7-1144 (Office)

2705 Emmet Road
Silver Spring, Maryland LOckwood 5-3522 (Home)

Page 2

Robert Ramspeck, Vice Pres. Eastern Air Lines (former Congressman, former
Chairman, Civil Service Commission)
405 Colorado Building
Washington 5, D.C. MEtropolitan 8-2574 (Office)

9516 N. Starhope Road
Rock Creek Hills, Maryland

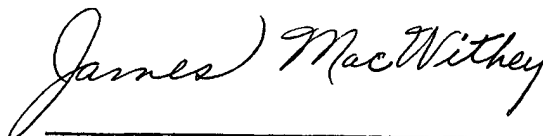
Mel White, Chief, Information Service, Air Force Office of
Scientific Research
Washington 25, D.C.

Office Tempo "X"
Washington 25, D.C. LIberty 5-6700 Extension 67321 (Office)

2014 Columbia Pike,
Arlington 4, Virginia JAckson 4-0808 (Home)

Any ideas you may have or suggestions which you would like us to take up
with the Committee, with or without your identification, will be very welcome.

Sincerely,



President

D BOTTOM

•	UNCLASSIFIED		CONFIDENTIAL		SECRET
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY OFFICIAL ROUTING SLIP					
TO	NAME AND ADDRESS		INITIALS		DATE
1	COL. GROGAN				
2					
3					
4					
5					
6					
	ACTION		DIRECT REPLY		PREPARE REPLY
	APPROVAL		DISPATCH		RECOMMENDATION
	COMMENT		FILE		RETURN
	CONCURRENCE		INFORMATION		SIGNATURE
Remarks:					
<p>Stan: The Director suggests if you think it appropriate you might wish to get in touch with Jim Hagerty about this.</p> <p><i>Talked to Hagerty</i> <i>27 May 1958</i></p> <p>STAT</p>					
FOLD HERE TO RETURN TO SENDER					
FROM: NAME, ADDRESS AND PHONE NO.					DATE
JSEarman 26 May 58					